

Department of Medical Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wis.

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Dr. Boris Ephrussi
Lab. de Genetique Physiologique
Gif-sur-Yvette, O.&S., France

Dear Boris:

Thank you for your remark about B-26. The further question I would ask you is whether it still retains the plasmids for normal respiration.

I rather thought Wright was in direct communication with you. He is busy finishing his thesis now, on the basis of perhaps too few (4 to 6) cases of transmission of normal particles through dikaryons. There were only one or two that also showed the reciprocal conversion, in suppressive x normal, i.e. to give suppressive segregants as well. Much of the elegance of this approach is, unhappily, lost owing to the polyploidy of Powell's stocks & it should be repeated with other material.

Wright should graduate here in mid-July; he has to stay here about another two months for some final surgery (a plate for his parietal bone). Following that he would very much like to be able to spend six months or so with you, before he returns to Melbourne. He is not a U.S. citizen, and therefore cannot get the usual fellowships. He is enquiring, so far without much encouragement, about subsidies from his own government or from Commonwealth sources. Any help you could mediate would be much appreciated. I doubt we will continue with any more yeast work after ~~this~~ departure. If his thesis shows any more interesting detail than we have already discussed, I will ask him to remain in touch with you.

As to our own plans: 1) we will take leave August 1 to visit Australia for about 3 1/2 months. We can be reached c/o Rubbo at Melbourne. 2) We would be delighted at a chance for another visit to Paris in connection with the Royaumont-Stockholm cycle in the summer of 1958. Francois has probably brought this up with you. This is perhaps not what you are interested in. My main pre-occupation now is our new department of Medical Genetics: its organization and relationships with Genetics (in the College of Agriculture, where I retain a half-time appointment), staff, and building plans (for a new wing to be constructed this fall). I have given a more or less definite negative reply, for the time being, to Harvard, Stanford et al. There were some issues at Berkeley that were more discouraging some months ago than now, but they have not yet come to a head; this possibility is entirely open, and probably will not be resolved for several months. In any case, no action would be possible on it for at least another 18 mos. I have no idea what alternative prospects are in mind at Harvard or Stanford.

With best wishes,

Joshua Lederberg